



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

JRE
Docket No: 7800-00
19 June 2001

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your request for further consideration of your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552. You have requested that your record be corrected to show that you received a disability rating for diabetes mellitus, and that you were retired by reason of physical disability, vice discharged with entitlement to severance pay.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, reconsidered your application on 14 June 2001. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. In this regard, the Board noted that although you had an elevated serum glucose level on 3 April 1991, and sugar in a urine specimen given to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in September 1992, you did not display any of the characteristic symptoms of diabetes, such as polyuria, polydipsia, fatigue or weight loss at the time of your discharge from the Navy, or for several years thereafter. The Board noted that while a history of diabetes is disqualifying for enlistment in the Armed Forces, it is not necessarily unfitting for retention on active duty. Although the VA must rate any condition incurred in, aggravated by, or traceable to a period of military service, or derived therefrom, the military departments may rate only those conditions which render a service member unfit for duty. As you have not demonstrated that you were unfit for duty because of diabetes mellitus on 21 September 1991, the Board was unable to recommend any corrective action in your case. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director